Telecommunications and HCL may bilaterally work out the ways and means to see how the operations of the latter may be sustained for the time being.

(c) In pursuance of the above decision, Department of Telecommunications released an additional order alongwith 50% advance for supplies during January to March, 1997. Department of Heavy Industry has further sought fresh order from Department of Telecommunications for HCL on the same lines for the year 1997-98 also.

CBI Inquiry Against Marketing Managers of STC.

*207. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry had been conducted by CBI or any other investigating agency against Marketing Managers of STC;

(b) if so, the details of such enquiry together with the amount involved in the racket detected in this regard;

(c) whether no action has been taken on the said report by the Chairman; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not taking any action thereon together with the names of the guilty officers *viz.* Marketing Managers, Branch Managers and Directors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Status of the cases covered under CBI enquiry or otherwise during 1995-96 and 1996-97 as intimated by STC are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). The cases reflected in the enclosed Annexure are at various stages of investigation/ enquiry.

Statement

Sl. No.	Year	Subject	Status Position
1.	1995-96	Import of Russian Newsprint by STC	On the basis of an internal inquiry into the allegations against STC managers in Russian newsprint import deal, CVC advised the CBI to take up the investigation in the matter. With the concurrence of the MOC, a criminal case was registered on 5.1.96. In their latest progress report dated 9.1.1997, CBI have intimated that the investigation is at a crucial stage. Consequent upon registration of the case, STC management placed under suspension accused Managers namely Shri B.D. Majumdar, Chief Marketing Manager, Shri R.L. Batra, Marketing Manager, and Shri S.N. Basu Roychoudhury, Marketing Manager, Shri Gopal Chaturvedi, Director (Finance) was allowed to proceed on leave on 10.1.96 but resumed his duty on 16.4.96. He is presently on leave with effect from

Sl. No.	Year	Subject	Status Position
			10.2.97. While the claim for Rs.3.25 crores approximately has been lodged by STC against General Trading and Sales Corporation, the final amount of the claim will depend upon the decision in the arbitration proceedings.
2.	1995-96	CBI verification of the deal pertaining to import of Palmolein by STC from Malaysia.	On the basis of allegations levelled by Shri S.P. Malaviya in November, 1993 for gross irregularities pertaining to import of 30,000 MTs of palmolein in September, 1993, an internal vigilance inquiry was conducted and a detailed inquiry report was submitted on 25.8.94. CBI Delhi have requisitioned the inquiry report which was forwarded on 20.4.95. Outcome is awaited. Meanwhile, CBI, Madras was asked to investigate the alleged contamination of the consignment as it had created financial problems for STC. In its report, the CBI recomnended to the CFTRI, Maysore action against the officials for certain lapses and action of negligence on their part. STC has imported 30,000 MTs Palmolein valued at Rs.36.88 crores approximately from Malaysia in September 1993. However, the actual loss involved in this case will be known after the availability of the CBI's final view.
3.	1995-96	Import of sugar in 1994, extension of huge financial assistance to M/s. Kesar Enterprises, Bombay.	In the PE, it is mentioned that STC, Bombay was put to wrongful loss of Rs.15.93 lakhs approximately. However, actual amount of loss will be known after the availability of CBI's final view.
4.	1996-97	Alleged lapses in the rice shipments from STC, Madras to Bangladesh	CVC vide its letter dt. 20.5.1996 ordered a vigilance inquiry into the acts of omission and commission by STC Madras branch. CMD, STC has conveyed his final views of the outcome of the inquiry report of MOC on 8.2.1997. MOC have addressed CVC on 14.2.1997 to expedite its final view. CBI vide its letter dated 23.4.1996 have also requisitioned all relevant documents/ files for secret verification which were handed over to CBI by STC on 11th June, 1996 and 19th July, 1996 respectively.

Sl. No.	Year	Subject	Status Position
			Outcome of the verification is awaited. STC had exported rice from Madras to Bangladesh valued at Rs. 36 crores approximately. However, the amount involved will be known after the final view is taken by CVC on the alleged irregularities.
5.	1996-97	Export of Plastic garbage bags to M/s. International leather Co. Dubai.	STC has referred the matter to CBI on 8.11.1996 for looking into any criminal liability of the concerned officials of STC. While the value of duty free import of plastic material to be availed of by the Indian party is Rs. 2.4 crores, the actual amount of loss will be determined after the availability of the investigation report.
6.	1996-97	Alleged FERA voilation by STC and ZEE TV	STC has referred the matter to CBI on 5.12.1996 to pin-point the criminal liability or otherwise of the concerned STC officials. The total amount of approximately Rs.30.49 lakhs has been paid to Zee TV. The actual amount of loss arising out of criminar liability, if any, will be known after the inquiry is completed by CBI.
7.	1996-97	Import of sugar by STC through M/s. Andre & CIE, Switzerland.	Director, CBI has recommended registration of a regular case vide letter dt. 17.2.1997 and has sought concurrence of the Ministry of Commerce which is under process. As per CBI report, the accused persons in the deal have alledgely caused undue pecuniary loss to STC/Government Exchequer to the extent of US$ 704612.70 as breach of contract and corresponding undue pecuniary gain to themselves and the private parties in the deal.

अखबारी कागज उद्योग में संकट

208. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या **उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में अखबारी कागज आयात कर लिए जाने से अखबारी कागज उद्योग को संकट का सामना करना पड़ रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसके परिणामस्वरूप अनेक अखबारी कागज उत्पादक इकाइयां बंद होने की स्थिति में आ गयी हैं;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने अखबारी कागज के आयात के परिणामस्वरूप बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में इसका अम्बार लग जाने के मामले की जांच की है; और